

CLAIMS:-

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1. A method of predicting the outcome of head trauma comprising monitoring the pH of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) with time within the initial 24 hours following trauma.
 2. A method of claim 1 wherein a change of CSF pH is monitored within the initial 48 hours following trauma.
 3. A method of claim 1 wherein the pH of CSF is monitored with a pH probe received in a ventricle of the patient.
 4. A method of claim 1 wherein the measured pH is compared with a base line correlating with brain death.
 5. A method of treating head trauma, comprising the steps of:
 - i. monitoring the change of cerebrospinal fluid pH with time within the initial 24 hours following trauma; and
 - ii. managing the patient such that the pH rises with time.

6. Apparatus for predicting the outcome of head trauma, the apparatus comprising:

- a) a pH probe for reception in a patient's brain ventricle and capable of monitoring the pH of CSF;
- b) means for calculating the pH at the probe at sequential times;
- c) means for comparing the calculated pH values with stored values; and
- d) means for displaying and/or recording the resulting values.

7. The use of the measured changes of CSF pH with time in diagnosis or therapy of neurological injuries.

8. The use of means for monitoring the change of CSF pH over time in the manufacture of apparatus for diagnosing the outcome of blunt head trauma.

9. The use of means for monitoring the change of CSF pH with time in the manufacture of apparatus for the therapy of blunt head trauma.

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